

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Alt Loennewitz Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 23 March to 10 April 1953

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 7 May 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1-sketch on ditto

REMARKS

1. Air activity observed at Alt Loennewitz airfield from 23 March through 10 April 1953 included:

23 March. From 6 to 11 p.m., five Po-2s and three Yak-14s practiced local flying. Searchlights were in operation when the planes landed.

24 March. At 2:10 p.m., eight MiG-15s took off in groups of two at intervals of 20 seconds. Weather was hazy. The planes assembled into one formation for flying at a great altitude. From 6:30 to 10 p.m. three Po-2s made local training flights. A total of 20 MiG-15s, 21 Il-10s, 2 Po-2s, and 24 single-engine aircraft of an undetermined type were observed at the field.

25 March. From 2:30 to 5 p.m., two Yak-14s and 3 Po-2s made local training flights. Night flying by individual Il-10s was practiced from 6:20 to 10 p.m. Three searchlights were in operation.

26 March. At 8:45 a.m., five MiG-15s, the last of which towed an air sleeve, took off in fair weather. Another group of five MiG-15s took off at 3 p.m. Air-to-air firing was heard from the direction of the Elbe River at 3:30 p.m. At 3:50 p.m., [] MiG-15s flying in groups of two attacking the air sleeve. Individual flights by Il-10s and Po-2s were also observed.

27 March. MiG-15s practiced firing at a towed air sleeve. At 9:20 a.m., 12 MiG-15s took off in groups of two in rapid succession. [REDACTED]

23 March. Only two Po-2s were observed flying.

29 March. No air activity was observed.

30 March. Night flying was practiced by individual IL-10s and Po-2s after 6:30 p.m.

31 March. Between 5:10 and 5:30 p.m., 18 MiG-15s, two of them towing an air sleeve, landed at the field.

Before these planes landed, 4 MiG-15s.

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23 Il-10s, 22 single-engine planes and 1 twin-engine plane were observed at the field.

1 April. There was heavy flying in gusty weather. From 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., several Il-10s practiced flying, also above the clouds. About 10 a.m., six Il-28s landed at the field. Between 10:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m., a MiG-15 with an attached air sleeve made six take-offs. The plane was attacked and fired at by groups of two MiG-15s. From 6:30 to 11:30 p.m., MiG-15s made individual local training flights.

2 April. There was heavy flying by MiG-15s in fair weather. From 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., MiG-15s practiced attacks against an air sleeve. Mostly two MiG-15s were involved in these attacks, which were made in four different forms. [] a sketch of these four forms of attacks.

3 and 4 April. Firing at towed air sleeves was practiced by groups of two MiG-15s as observed on the preceding day. []

[] The maximum number of MiG-15s observed on this day was 24.

5 April. No air activity was observed in rainy weather.

6 April. From 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Il-10s made local training flights. At 10:30 a.m., 10 Il-10s took off and assembled in a diamond-shaped formation. A total of 31 Il-10s was counted at the field. Weather was fair.

7 April. Air activity observed followed the same pattern as on the preceding day.

8 April. Firing at towed sleeve targets was practiced by MiG-15s. Other MiG-15s were observed flying in formations of four.

9 April. Five Il-10s practiced formation flying in showery weather.

10 April. Il-10s practiced formation flying in groups of four, MiG-15s in groups of two.

2. Three emplacements of AA machine guns were observed in the northwestern and southeastern portions of the field and south of the western end of the runway. The AA gun emplacements at the south side of the installation were still occupied. Construction work was under way about 250 meters southeast of the second hangar reckoned from the west. Two conveyor belts were in operation and an earth wall 50 meters long was seen. Pits for fuel tanks were perhaps constructed. []

3. On 7 April, [] 10 MiG-15s and three DC-3s in front of the hangars at Alt Loennewitz airfield. From 2:30 to 3 p.m. two MiG-15s practiced flying. At 3:30 p.m., three MiG-15s were observed aloft, one of them was towing an air sleeve. At 4 p.m., six MiG-15s crossed Torgau in formation. []

1. [] Comment. For sketch of the attacking formations and the diamond-shaped formation of MiG-15s, see Annex.

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- 25X1 2. [] Comment. A fighter and a ground attack regiment are stationed at Alt Loennowitz airfield. The fighter regiment frequently practiced firing at air sleeves, towed by MiG-15s. The diamond-shaped formation of 10 Il-10s was observed for the first time. []

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It is interesting to note that aircraft [] which were previously observed in Koethen, were reported several times from Alt Loennowitz. No transfer of MiG-15s from Koethen to Alt Loennowitz has been reported. It is therefore possible that the aircraft [] mentioned were misidentified [] The six Il-28s observed at Alt-Loennowitz on 1 April probably had moved temporarily to the field for joint exercises by fighter and bomber units.

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- 25X1 3. [] Comment. An AAA battery of 6x37-mm guns is emplaced at the southern edge of the field. The three emplacements of AA machine guns will probably be manned, in case of need, by members of the OATBs stationed at the field.

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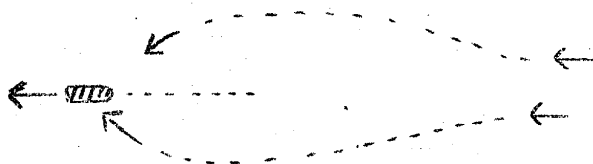
Annex

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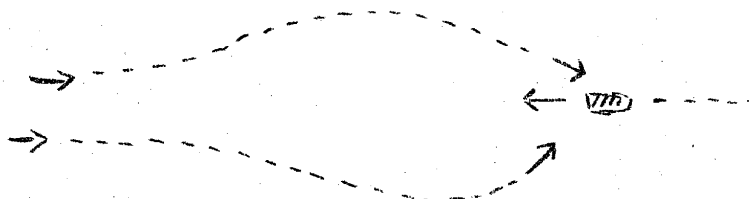
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Formations of MiG-15s Observed at
Alt Loennewitz Airfield

a.)

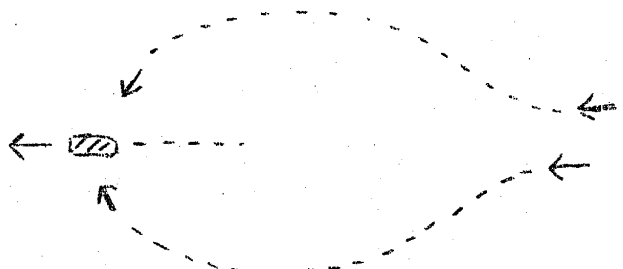


b.)

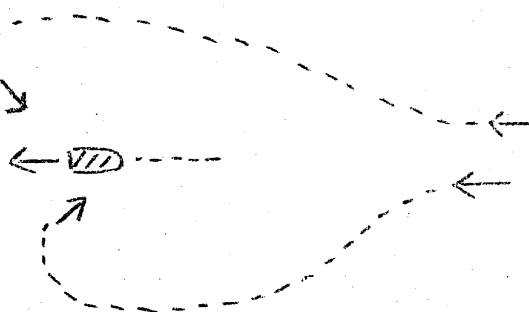


a to d: Four
forms of attacks made
by two MiG-15s at a
towed air sleeve

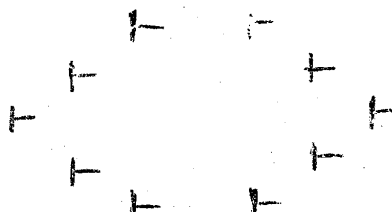
c.)



d.)



Formation of 10 IL-10s of the GA Regt at the field.



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